

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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Willow Woes



Some of the stately Willow Oaks gracing McKeldin Mall soon will be gone. See the story on page 2 for more details.

New Laser Instrument Enables University and NASA to Study Forests



A NASA research aircraft will fly over selected U.S. forests this month with an innovative laser instrument to find out for the first time just how much vegetation these forests contain. When this technology is launched into space next year aboard the NASA/University of Maryland Vegetation Canopy Lidar (VCL) spacecraft, it will create the first global maps of forest vegetation. Scientists will use these maps to monitor the health of

forests and the capacity of forests to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The VCL mission scientists will be led by University of Maryland geographer Ralph Dubayah. The university's geography department will house command-and-control and data processing operations for the VCL mission.

The new instrument uses a sensor technology known as lidar (light detection and ranging) that other missions have used to map the surface of Mars and coastal erosion on Earth. The unique adaptation of this technology onboard VCL will accurately map the ground hidden beneath dense forests while also measuring the structure and density of the forests themselves. VCL observations will aid scientists studying global climate change and monitoring forest ecosystems around the world.

The aircraft flights will map portions of three forests with the Laser Vegetation Imaging Sensor (LVIS), built at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (Greenbelt). Flying aboard a NASA Wallops Flight Facility C-130 aircraft, LVIS will map forests in Maryland, North Carolina, and New Hampshire beginning Sept. 16. Mapping in California's Sequoia National Forest starts Sept. 28. The LVIS flights over the Costa Rican rain forest were the first time remote sensing has been used to produce fine scale measurements of forest canopy height and structure and

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Proposed NASA Funding Cuts Could Deal Major Blow to Univ. Research

The almost \$1 billion in cuts to NASA funding currently under discussion in Congress would deal a devastating blow to NASA-funded science and technology research, say University President Dan Mote and leading researchers at the university. If enacted, local impacts of these reductions would include damaging the university and other leading research institutions in the area and negatively affecting regional economic growth and business development, they say.

"The consequences of these cuts on the nation's research and scientific efforts would be extraordinarily painful and far-reaching," says Mote. "We are in the midst of an extraordinary period of scientific and technological advances. Now is a terrible time to bring those to a halt."

Mote also notes the impact on research programs at the University of Maryland would be particularly great because Maryland is one of the institutions that NASA turns to most frequently for cutting-edge research in the earth and space sciences.

According to university figures, during fiscal year 1999 the University of Maryland in College Park was awarded almost \$41 million in NASA research grants and contracts. The university has a particularly strong relationship with NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt and Goddard would be hit very strongly by the proposed cuts. NASA says the proposed cuts in funding would result in the reduction or outright elimination of many future science and technology programs at Goddard. The resulting reductions to Goddard's budget dur-

ing the next five years could be greater than \$2 billion, according to the agency.

"The proposed cuts to NASA's budget will have a devastating impact on research programs in the state, not only at the University of Maryland, but at other institutions as well," says University of Maryland astronomer Michael A'Hearn. "For example, the cuts not only will eliminate our own Deep Impact mission to study the interior of a comet, which was just selected for NASA funding this summer, they also will eliminate missions to be developed by The Johns Hopkins University. The

"The consequences of these cuts on the nation's research and scientific efforts would be extraordinarily painful and far-reaching. We are in the midst of an extraordinary period of scientific and technological advances. Now is a terrible time to bring those to a halt."

—President Dan Mote

cuts also will have a devastating effect on the basic research programs carried out here, at Hopkins and at Goddard as there are many researchers at each of these institutions who rely on NASA's Research and Analysis funding for their basic research programs."

The university's department of geography is heavily involved in many aspects of NASA's efforts to use satellite imaging technologies to further study of the Earth and of processes such as global warming. Department chair Samuel Goward says the proposed cuts to NASA's budget would essen-

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verbatim

"Indeed, the tens of thousands of polygraph screening exams administered by the C.I.A., the F.B.I. and the National Security Agency have yet to uncover a single spy."—*Robert L. Parks, professor of physics, in a July 12 op ed piece in the New York Times arguing that planned polygraph examinations will not help to tighten security at Los Alamos National Laboratory.*

"The focus of the strip is race, just like the focus of 'Dilbert' is cubicles."—*Maryland alumnus Aaron McGruder, in a July 5 Newsweek story about his controversial comic strip 'Boondocks,' syndicated in nearly 200 newspapers across the country.*

"These days, young people tend to marry later, after they have completed their education and have a better idea of who they are. Because they have seen so much divorce, many want to be very sure before making such a big decision. Studies show they want marriage to be a partnership, with equality between men and women, and to be emotionally satisfying in ways never dreamed of by their parents, let alone grandparents."—*Douglas Besbarov, professor of public affairs, in a July 14 New York Times op ed piece disputing recent studies claiming that marriage rates are down.*

"If the parties cannot agree on something like who's going to be ambassador to the U.N., how could they possibly agree on Social Security? Overall, the level of mistrust between the two parties is probably about as high as it's been since the Truman presidency."—*Eric Uslaner, political science professor, in a July 15 Los Angeles Times story about the difficulties ahead in fashioning political compromises in Washington.*

"Joke-telling allows us to get away with saying things that are taboo, impolite, politically incorrect. Internet jokes lose that value because the teller doesn't have the personal commitment to the joke. People send whole strings of jokes they have no commitment to."—*Laurence Mintz, associate professor of American Studies and director of the Art Kliner Center for Humor Studies, in a July 15 New York Times feature about the saturation of the Internet with jokes.*

"The violent lunar birth suggested by the Apollo evidence caused people to suddenly start thinking about ideas that were out of bounds before. There was a general change in thinking about catastrophic events."—*Stephen Brush, Distinguished University Professor of the history of science, in a July 20 New York Times story about the impact of the Apollo moon exploration program on scientific assumptions about the origins of the universe.*

"My gender is interesting, but really not the subject of the story here."—*Carleton S. "Carly" Fiorina, Maryland MBA graduate, in a July 20 Washington Post feature about her historic appointment as CEO of Hewlett-Packard, becoming the first woman to head one of the 30 companies that make up the Dow Jones industrial average. Fiorina's appointment - and Maryland background - also made the New York Times, wire services and newspapers all over the country.*

"This shows the megalodon was not just a large version of the great white shark. It was a far more direct and powerful creature, and it is probably fortunate for us that we have not seen its like for millions of years."—*Bretton Kent, entomology instructor, in a June 13 London (England) Times story about new research on the largest shark ever to roam the oceans, which reached lengths of 60 feet and weighed up to 65 tons.*

Stately Willows to Be Removed, Replaced

Despite the university's best efforts to preserve them, four of the stately Willow Oaks gracing McKeldin Mall will have to be removed. The trees, which assistant director of grounds maintenance Kevin Brown estimates were planted in the 1940s, are either dead or dying and present a potential hazard to property and pedestrians. Replacement trees will be planted shortly after the four are removed.

Christopher Klimas, a licensed tree expert with The Davey Tree Expert Company in Gaithersburg, evaluated the oaks last July. Klimas says root damage resulting from major construction projects on the mall in the 1980s has caused many of the trees' root systems to decline. "This has allowed opportunities for root rotting fungi to invade the trees' roots and trunks," he says.

The four Willow Oaks—there are approximately 70 shading the mall—are located in front of Marie Mount Hall. All four, says Klimas, are exhibiting root and trunk decay beyond tolerable limits. "The structural integrity has been greatly compromised and these trees are likely to fail in the near future," he says.

Two of the trees are severely decayed at their bases, says Klimas, and one, the victim of lightning some seven years ago,



Four of the Willow Oaks located in front of Marie Mount Hall are dead or dying and are slated to be removed very soon.

never recovered. The fourth oak also is "under considerable drought stress and is being attacked by oak borers," says Klimas.

Brown says removal of the

trees is slated to occur in the next few weeks, during a non-home football game weekend. Replacement planting will take place soon after.

Cuts to NASA Funding Damaging to Research

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tially bring to a halt effective use of satellite imaging for the study of the Earth.

"These reductions would cut the heart out of NASA's efforts to make remote imaging a key tool for earth system scientists," Goward says.

Massive cuts to NASA's budget were first proposed July 26, 1999 when the House Appropriations Subcommittee for VA, HUD and Independent Agencies passed a funding bill that cut NASA's budget 10 per-

cent below President Clinton's request for Fiscal Year 2000, and 11 percent below the FY 1999 authorization. Of the \$1.325 billion reduction, more than 60 percent was taken from NASA's science and future technology accounts.

On August 3, the full Appropriations Committee restored some of these cuts. The NASA budget that has been sent to the House floor in H.R. 2684 still contains \$925 million in cuts, primarily aimed at science and technology.

Correction

Last week's article about the renovated Career Center incorrectly stated the date for the grand opening celebration. The grand opening takes place Wednesday, Sept. 29 from 4-7 p.m.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community. **William Destler**, Interim Vice President for University Advancement; **Teresa Flannery**, Executive Director of University Communications and Director of Marketing; **George Cathcart**, Executive Editor; **Jennifer Hawes**, Editor; **Londa Scott Forté**, Assistant Editor; **Erin Madison**, Editorial Intern. Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication. Send material to Editor, Outlook, 2101 Turner Hall, College Park, MD 20742. Telephone (301) 405-4629; e-mail outlook@accmail.umd.edu; fax (301) 314-9344. Outlook can be found online at www.inform.umd.edu/outlook/

RAD-ical Approach to Self Defense

The University of Maryland Police Department (UMPD) is committed to providing the safest environment possible. With this in mind, the department is again offering Rape Aggression Defense classes during the Fall 1999 semester. Rape Aggression Defense Systems or RAD, is an international self defense organization. RAD differs from other self defense programs in that it offers a free life-time return and practice policy.

The program begins with a personal safety discussion, which includes information focusing on awareness and risk reduction. Student participation and information sharing is encouraged. Topics include safety in the home, in the car and while traveling, as well as current hot issues such as "Should I carry pepper spray?"

The majority of the time is spent practicing physical self defense techniques for all types of confrontations using different levels of force. Participation is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged. You can work at your own pace. Prior experience is not necessary.

The program concludes with a simulated attack. A well-padded officer confronts students to allow them the chance to practice the techniques they have learned to defend themselves. The chance to actually use the techniques and strike with maximum force against an attacker while being videotaped for later review

can be a tremendous confidence builder.

Television, movies and today's society have conditioned women to believe they can't successfully defend themselves against a larger, stronger attacker. During this program, women will come to understand they can successfully defend themselves against an opponent.

This program is being offered primarily to University of Maryland students, faculty and staff. However, if a class is not full, the UMPD will open it to off-campus women for \$25. If you are interested in signing up for a RAD class, but cannot attend one of the classes listed below, please call to be added to a waiting list. At the beginning of each semester, the class schedule is mailed to everyone on the list allowing wait-listers first chance to sign up for a class before it becomes full. Classes are limited to 20 students.

To register, please call 405-3555 or visit the UMPD web site: www.umpd.umd.edu.

Fall 1999 Schedule of R.A.D. Classes

Class 91: Sundays	Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3 & 10
Noon to 3:30 p.m.	
Class 92: Thursdays	Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7 & 14
6 to 9:30 p.m.	
Class 93: Wednesdays	Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 13 & 20
6-9:30 p.m.	
Class 94: Wednesdays	Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10 & 17
6-9:30 p.m.	

Additional classes may be added. Please check the web site for updates.



Sears Directors' Cup Analysis Shows Terps Get More for the Money

For the second straight season, University of Maryland sports teams finished among the nation's top 25 institutions in scoring for the Sears Directors' Cup. What was most impressive about the Terrapins' 19th-place showing in 1997-98 and 24th-place effort in 1998-99 is the manner in which they have remained competitive with the country's most elite and most powerful athletic programs.

The Terps boast a broad-based athletics department which last year included 24 varsity sports. A 25th, women's golf, was added this fall. Only eight other schools in the Sears Cup top 25, and only 10 others in the top 40, boast as many sports to spread its annual operating budget.

Further, only six schools among top 25 institutions averaged fewer operating dollars per sport than the Terps, as reflected in a recent survey among schools. The only schools with lower operating budgets per sport were Notre Dame, California, Arizona State, ACC rivals Duke and North Carolina, and five-time Sears Directors Cup champion Stanford.

Right, and above, is a look at the survey results:

More Points for the Money (Fewer Operating Dollars Per Sport among Top 25 Institutions)

School	Dollars Spent Per Sport
1. Duke	\$880,769.23
2. California	\$900,000.00
3. Stanford	\$939,393.94
4. Notre Dame	\$946,153.85
5. Arizona State	\$980,952.38
6. North Carolina	\$1,028,571.43
7. Maryland	\$1,041,666.67
8. Virginia	\$1,045,454.55
9. Washington	\$1,126,086.96
10. Arkansas	\$1,333,333.33

Broad-Based Success (Sears Cup Points Per Sport, among Top 25 Institutions with 24 or More Sports)

School	Sears Cup Points	'98-99 Sports	Points Earned Per Sport
1. Stanford	970	33	29.394
2. Penn State	600	27	22.222
3. Duke	510	26	19.615
4. Nebraska	420	24	17.500
5. North Carolina	370	28	13.214
6. Maryland	310	24	12.917
7. California	320	27	11.852
8. Ohio State	410	35	11.714
9. Notre Dame	300	26	11.538

All budget figures are approximate, as provided in an informal survey of athletics business offices at respective institutions. Figures reflect operating budgets for the 1998-99 school calendar, and include allocations for scholarships and salaries. Survey conducted by the University of Maryland department of intercollegiate athletics.

Calculating Whiz Works Mathematical Wonders

Faster than a speeding calculator, and the world's foremost performer of mental arithmetic, Arthur Benjamin comes to campus Saturday, Sept. 25 to present "Mathemagics: The Art of Mental Calculating," 4 to 5 p.m. in Room 0200 Skinner Hall.

Benjamin, professor of mathematics at Harvey Mudd College, has performed live all over the country and on numerous TV talk shows. He has been the subject of investigation by a cognitive psychologist at Carnegie Mellon University and is featured in a book called "The Great Mental Calculators: The Psychology, Methods, and Lives of Calculating Prodigies."

This free program, open to all, is cosponsored by the University of Maryland Honors Program, the Computer Science Department and the National Capital Area Skeptics. Call 405-6771 for more information.



Arthur Benjamin performs mental arithmetic.

dateline maryland

Your Guide to University Events
September 14-23

September 14

5:30-6:30 p.m. "VICTORWeb Workshop," an introduction to using VICTORWeb, the Libraries' Web-based catalog and online periodical databases. 4133 McKeldin Library. 5-9070.

6-7:30 p.m. "Getting to Know Your WAM Account," is designed to introduce WAM account holders to the concepts involved in using their accounts. The class covers receiving and sending email, deleting mail, and participating in electronic discussion groups. Perfect for those who have just begun using their WAM accounts. 3330 Computer & Space Sciences Bldg. 5-2938 or register at <www.inform.umd.edu/PT>.

6-9 p.m. "Introduction to Windows 95," introduces the Windows operating system. Concepts covered include how to move around in a window, use menus, find files, use help, copy files, format floppy disks, create folders, create and manage files for use with Windows applications. 4404 Computer & Space Sciences Bldg. 5-2938 or register at <www.inform.umd.edu/PT>.*

September 15

11:35 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Black Campus Ministries Program: "Sweet Hour of Prayer," a Campus-Wide Prayer Service. Memorial Chapel. 4-7759 or 5-9005.

1 p.m. Senior University Art Show and Open House, presented by Passageways Art Studios, Inc. Art work by 13 professional artists will be on display and Linda Uphoff will give a talk, plus answer questions.

7 p.m. "Writers Here and Now Reading Series," 1998 Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Gerald Stern reads his work at the first reading of the Writers Here and Now Series, which is celebrating its 30th year on campus. Special Events Room, McKeldin Library. 5-3820 or db188@umail.umd.edu.

September 16

9:30-10:30 a.m. "Numerical Seminar." Pedro Morin discusses oscillation and convergence of adaptive FEM for elliptic PDE. 3206 Math Bldg. 5-5108 or rhn@math.umd.edu.

4:30-6:30 p.m. "Navigating the WebCT Environment," is for students who are enrolled in courses at the university which have integrated WebCT into the class environment. In it students will learn to navigate course content, participate in bulletin boards and chat

rooms, and develop presentation materials in group project space. 4404 Computer & Space Sciences Bldg. 5-2938 or register at <www.inform.umd.edu/PT>

3:30-4:30 p.m. "VICTORWeb Workshop," an introduction to using VICTORWeb, the Libraries' Web-based catalog and online periodical databases. 4133 McKeldin Library. 5-9070.

5-7:30 p.m. "Tenth Annual Animal Sciences Faculty Cook-Off Competition." Dishes may be made at home prior to competition; dishes may not be made by spouse, friend or acquaintance and students will sample the dishes and be the official judges. Student Concourse of the Animal Sciences Center. 5-1366

7-9 p.m. "Navigating the WebCT Environment," is for students who are enrolled in courses at the university which have integrated WebCT into the class environment. In it students will learn to navigate course content, participate in bulletin boards and chat rooms, and develop presentation materials in group project space. 4404 Computer & Space Sciences Bldg. 5-2938 or register at <www.inform.umd.edu/PT>

September 18

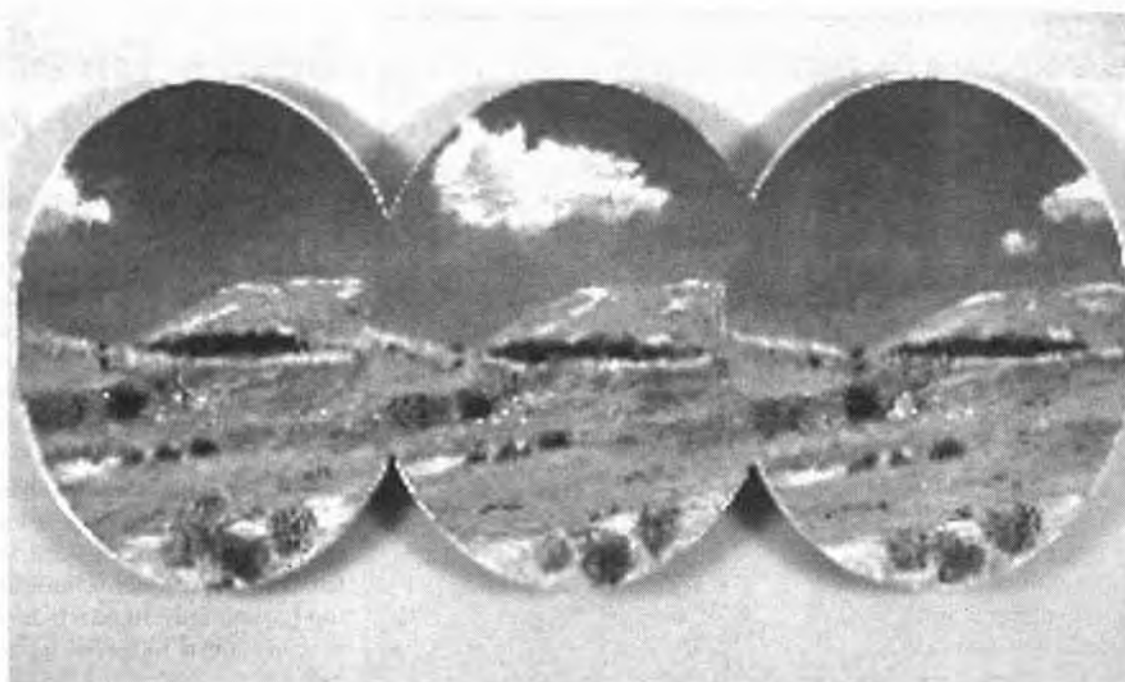
1-2 p.m. "VICTORWeb Workshop," an introduction to using VICTORWeb, the Libraries' Web-based catalog and online periodical databases. 4133 McKeldin Library. 5-9070.

8-11 p.m. "Chris Gekker in Concert," featuring works by Eric Ewazen, David Snow and James Wintle. Ulrich Recital Hall. 5-5570.*

September 19

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. "Lutheran Terrapin Brunch." Discover a great group of students, faculty, staff and alumni while enjoying good conversation and food. Hope Lutheran Church and Student Center.

5:30 p.m. School of Music Event: "Art and Voice," featuring Carmen Balthrop, soprano; José Cáceras, piano; and Richard Klank, artist. Ulrich Recital Hall. 5-7847.*



"Utah," by Symmes Gardner is one of the works on display in The Art Gallery.

Crosscurrents 99: Dissociativity

The Art Gallery opens its 1999-00 exhibition season with Dissociativity. Guest curated by Baltimore artist and freelance curator Tex Andrews, the exhibition features the artwork of John Ellsberry, Symmes Gardner, Gary Kachadourian, Sherry Seymour and Elizabeth Sidamon-Eristoff, and will be on display at the gallery until Oct. 16.

Dissociativity addresses the idea that over the last 130 years, the processes of both formal and conceptual critique have left us with a disassembled visual arts environment. As stated by the curator in his exhibition statement, "No clear pattern, movements or trends under which artists and objects would normally cohere exist today." Artists are thus increasingly unable to identify with each other, leaving them to focus ever more intently on their own work. The artists in this exhibition display a sense of independence from any coherent background of aesthetic and conceptual issues.

John Ellsberry's stained glass mosaics, reminiscent of Chuck Close's grid portraits, depict famous personalities such as Henry Kissinger, Greta Garbo and Jackie Kennedy Onassis. Elizabeth Sidamon-Eristoff, using oil on canvas and gouache on paper, presents a remarkably intimate hyperrealism in her figurative work. Gary Kachadourian's tiny polychromatic woodcarvings depict scenes of everyday life with a humorous intricate style. Sherri Seymour's Polaroid-size black and white



"Elizabeth Taylor," by John Ellsberry.

photographs, taken from the artist's travels through Thailand and the United States, depict solitary objects such as a cow skull or cactus. A video installation by Symmes Gardner consists of a seemingly unrelated set of visual and aural elements presented on various monitors scattered in the middle of the gallery.

Crosscurrents is an annual exhibition showcasing the talent of regional artists and curators who live within a 100-mile radius of College Park. Each year, The Art Gallery selects an independent curator from outside the academic world to develop the theme for the Crosscurrents exhibition. By inviting input from outside the university, The Art Gallery seeks to engage a multiplicity of viewpoints and provide exposure for a wide range of voices.

The Art Gallery's hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursdays 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information call 405-2763 or visit their website at www.inform.umd.edu/ArtGal.



"Cow Skull, Thailand," by Sherri Seymour.

September 20

11 a.m. - noon "VICTORWeb Workshop," an introduction to using VICTORWeb, the Libraries' Web-based catalog and online periodical databases. 4133 McKeldin Library. 5-9070.

1:30-3 p.m. "OMSE Open House, Student Art Show, Mentor/Mentee of the Year Awards, and Book Allowance Drawing," honors a mentor who has supported, challenged and motivated his or her mentee. All students may register for the monetary book allowance drawing by coming into the office or before the drawing. 1101 Hornbake Library. 5-5156.

6-9 p.m. "Introduction to UNIX." 4404 Computer and Space Sciences Bldg. Register at <www.inform.umd.edu/PT>.*

September 21

3 p.m. "The Basics and Beyond: Steps in Library Research," covers learning how to define a research topic, and emphasizes selecting and searching databases to find periodical articles and other materials. 4133 McKeldin Library 5-9070.

4:30-5:30 p.m. "VICTORWeb Workshop," an introduction to using VICTORWeb, the Libraries' Web-based catalog and online periodical databases. 4133 McKeldin Library. 5-9070.

6-9 p.m. "Introduction to Microsoft Word." 4404 Computer and Space Sciences Bldg. Register at <www.inform.umd.edu/PT>.*

September 22

10 a.m. "First Look Fair," university clubs and student organizations give information about themselves at this outdoor event. McKeldin Mall.

2:15-4:15 p.m. OMSE Mentor/Mentee Training Workshop. Maryland Room, Marie Mount Hall.

September 23

3:30-4:30. "Numerical Analysis Seminar." Lars B. Wahlbin will discuss the maximum norm stability in parabolic finite element problems. 3206 Math Bldg. 5-5108 or rln@math.umd.edu.

4:30-5:30 p.m. 3 p.m. "The Basics and Beyond: Steps in Library Research," covers learning how to define a research topic, and emphasizes selecting and searching databases to find periodical articles and other materials. 4133 McKeldin Library 5-9070.

Calendar Guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). Calendar information for *Outlook* is compiled from a combination of inform's master calendar and submissions to the *Outlook* office. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail Outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

A closer look

University Health Center

There's one building on campus that never takes a break. The University Health Center, situated opposite Stamp Student Union, plays caretaker to the university community all year round, even during the holiday period.

On an average day, says director Maggie Bridwell, they see as many as 300 to 350 people at the health center, and this does not include those coming to the many health education classes offered here.

The health center was not always housed in its current premises. "It was more like a one-nurse, one-room facility," says Bridwell. University archivist Anne Turkos says the oldest record of medical services on campus dates back to 1901, when a facility called the "infirmary" used to be run out of Terrapin Hall. The hall was torn down in 1980. The current health center building came up in 1964.

Bridwell joined just a few years later, in 1970. It is her pioneering vision that has led to several changes and improvements here, making it a modern facility where students and staff can avail of services as current and diverse as acupuncture, massage, sports medicine, dental health, women's health, anonymous HIV testing and mental health, among other things.

And now, more additions and changes are in store. Plans for the addition of space and renovations to the health center are being considered by William "Bud" Thomas, vice president of Student Affairs. "We're almost going to double our space if the projected plans go through," Bridwell says. As the current location is extremely convenient, the health center will not move into another building. Instead, the current building will be expanded.

Thomas, Bridwell says, suggested adding extra space at the back. Under the proposed plan, there will be an extra elevator on one side, steps on the other. Two of the stories will be in glass "so there would be an open and bright look," Bridwell says. "A person who will be almost a traffic cop will sit at the front desk and send people where they want to go."

There also will be more exam rooms and the different clinics will have their own waiting spaces. "This building was built like a hospital," Bridwell says. "But that's not the philosophy of what we try to do." What's more, the lack of space keeps the health center from adding new services within the current space. "We keep adding stuff and I tell everybody to just come over, we'll find the space. But when they do, we're in trouble," she says.

Some of the additions in the recent past have included massage services and an acupuncture clinic. "The acupuncture clinic started last October. We have two acupuncture therapists working 20 hours

a week each. While I thought it would mostly be faculty and staff, apparently the better half is students," Bridwell says, adding that a couple of "high-powered people" at the university have been to the clinic.

Bridwell takes a keen interest in alternative medicine, or "integrative medicine" as she likes to call it. "I think we should be working together." What got her attention, she says, was an article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* more than five years ago that said at least a third of all patients seen by doctors were using some other kind of medicine, not traditional. "That made me stop and think—we should be exposing our students to the best," Bridwell recalls.

The current massage service started when a returning student set up a little table in the health center and started offering massages. It has grown since to a full-fledged service.

Other new services and plans continue to be introduced on a regular basis. Last spring, a sports medicine clinic was opened in the new Campus Recreation Center and a health educator is available for consultation every day between 11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. There is also a computer analyses center here where dietary advice is offered.

Shortly, a plan will be presented to the cabinet on mandatory health insurance for students. "Dr. Mote wanted to know why we don't have mandatory health insurance for students. I've agitated for a long time about this as we have almost 20 percent of students without health coverage." Under the new plan, a MAMSI policy will cost around \$650-670 for one whole year. "I have a hunch that there are people out there who think they're covered, and aren't," Bridwell says. Most services at the health center are free to students covered by MAMSI.

Another plan is to computerize all medical records, and one of the steps in this direction has already been taken. The health center has acquired voice-recognition software — "now we can dictate to the computer and it takes down notes," Bridwell says, adding with a laugh: "We really need that — there is one physician here whose writing is beyond the pale."

In addition to all this, Bridwell says, efforts are constantly made to further improve awareness on campus — "our philosophy is wellness and prevention." The



The University Health Center could double its space if proposed renovations are approved.

health center has several peer educators who educate students about important health issues such as eating disorders, dental health, sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, etc.

The health center some time back initiated the Healthy Workers Program. "We had been worried for a long time about the people who work by the hour without benefits," Bridwell says. So a program was initiated to screen workers in the South Campus Dining Hall for health problems. "We found that lot of people suffered from hypertension, and people who should be on medication who weren't," she says. Workers were then offered HIV testing, dental services and primary care, as well as classes on health services at the recreation center.

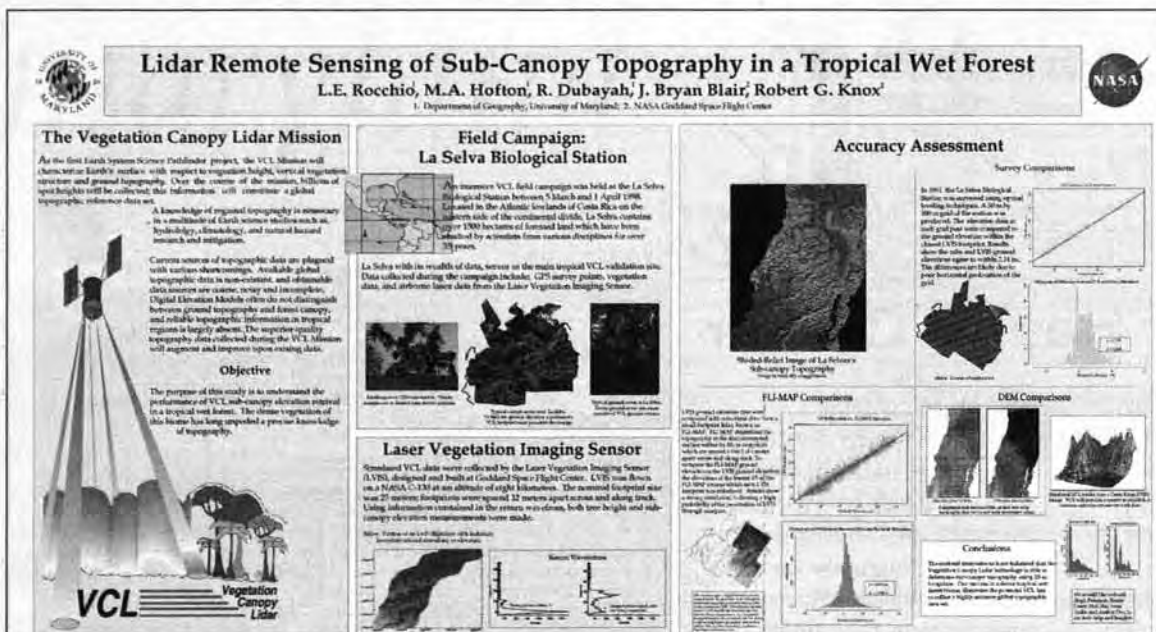
During the '97-'98 academic year, the center initiated a program that went to various buildings on campus to give flu shots. Also, with a grant from Merck, an outreach campaign was developed to educate the campus about Hepatitis B, chicken pox and meningitis vaccines.

Since the '70s, the health center has been promoting the use of birth control. "We were among the first in the country to have a women's clinic," Bridwell says. Last year, it even made the morning-after pill available on its premises.

To learn more about the services and health education programs offered by the University Health Center, visit its Web site at www.inform.umd.edu/health.

—VAISHALI HONAWAR

New Laser Instrument Enables University and NASA to Study Forests



This informative poster about the NASA/University of Maryland Vegetation Canopy Lidar can be found on the web at: www.inform.umd.edu/geog/vcl.

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tropical forest biomass, as well as of the topography hidden beneath the canopy.

The VCL instrument contains five lasers that send pulses of energy to the Earth's surface. Photons from the lasers bounce off leaves, branches, and the ground and reflect back to the instrument. By analyzing these returned signals, scientists receive a direct measurement of the height of the forest's leaf-covered canopy, the topography of the forest floor and the height of all the vegetation in between.

VCL is scheduled for launch in September 2000 from Alaska's Kodiak Launch Complex. This will be the first orbital launch from the new Kodiak Island facility. The VCL mission is the first selected program of NASA's Earth System Science Pathfinder project. The mission is led by the University of Maryland with collaboration from NASA Goddard's Laboratory for Terrestrial Physics and other academic and industrial contributors, including Orbital Sciences Corp., Omnitron Inc., Swales Aerospace, Fibertek Inc., Raytheon, and Universal Space Network.

System Hosts Premiere Conference on Online Learning

"Making the Transition to Mainstream Education: The Art and Practice of Online Learning" is the subject of the fifth international Conference on Asynchronous Learning Networks taking place Oct. 8-10 at the University College Inn and Conference Center. Hosted by the University System of Maryland and University College this is the premiere conference devoted exclusively to online learning.

You'll have an opportunity to study key issues, learn new approaches, see new technologies, share best practices, hear research results and become part of an international community that's shaping education for a knowledge society of life-long learners.

The conference is for both experienced professionals and interested newcomers to online learning who work in higher education, continuing education, business, government, health care, professional associations and nonprofit organizations. It's designed to meet the needs of:

- * College-level faculty and administrators
- * Instructional technology and media professionals
- * Instructional designers
- * Trainers in public- and private-sector organizations

To learn more about the ALN Conference, explore the Web site at www.aln.org/alnconf99. Register online today.

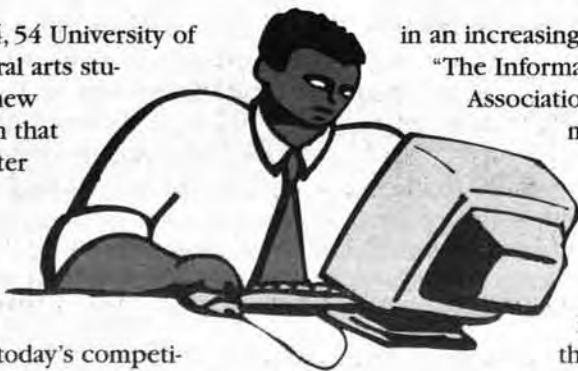
The event is sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation in conjunction with University College, University System of Maryland, ALN Center at Vanderbilt University and Goethe-Institut Washington.

Students in the College of Art and Humanities Go High-Tech

New Examination Tests Technology Dexterity

Last July 24, 54 University of Maryland liberal arts students took a new practical exam that tested computer literacy and information technology skills most desired by employers in today's competitive workforce. Tek.Xam (the Information Technology Certification Exam), currently in the pilot stages, will explore students' aptitude in the operation of technology; retrieving, interpreting and presenting information, and legal and ethical issues in its use.

The test is the creation of Mark Warner, the Virginia-based cellular entrepreneur and former Democratic Senate candidate. Sponsored by the Virginia Foundation of Independent Colleges and hosted by the College of Arts and Humanities, the test is designed to help students demonstrate their ability to think critically and communicate effectively using advanced technology. The goal is to provide liberal arts students with a means to prove their "electracy," a technical proficiency that will prepare them to be successful



in an increasingly digital world. "The Information Technology Association of America estimates more than 346,000 information technology jobs in the country are unfilled, and only 37 percent of them are in technology companies," says James Harris, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities. "Representatives of the technology-based companies have said they need employees who combine the traditional analytic and communications strengths of a liberal arts education with basic technological familiarity."

Tek.Xam was designed to enable students to indicate to potential employers that they possess a certain level of technical know-how. The five-hour exam explores Internet ability from searching web pages to creating them. Students are also responsible for knowing legal and ethical issues that arise from widespread use of this technology. The test will soon serve as a widely-accepted credential for corporations seeking to fill technology-intensive positions. Many major local corpora-

tions, such as Crestar Financial Corporation and Bell Atlantic, have already endorsed the exam. In its first trial at Maryland, all 54 available slots filled one month prior to the exam, and 40 additional students are on a wait-list for the exam.

"Tek.Xam will build bridges between liberal arts students and the business community, both high-tech and more traditional companies," says Harris. "Liberal arts majors have good critical thinking and communication skills but often are not recognized as possessing the technological competency necessary to compete for jobs that involve a high use of technology."

Along with its participation in the pilot Tek.Xam program, the college is launching another initiative to support its mission of integrating technology in the humanities. Using a \$410,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH) will promote the integration of technol-

ogy into humanities classrooms by establishing a certificate program for undergraduates and training teachers for Maryland's K-12 students. MITH will award faculty research fellowships for development of digital projects in the arts and humanities, which includes many areas of study like theater, English, music, history and philosophy. MITH also plans to host an annual international conference on technology in humanities.

"The overwhelming demand to participate in this test indicates our students' confidence in their technological ability," says Martha Nell Smith, director of MITH. "We reached our capacity of 54 students in a matter of days and had to turn away more than 100 students. This is a remarkable response during the summer sessions."

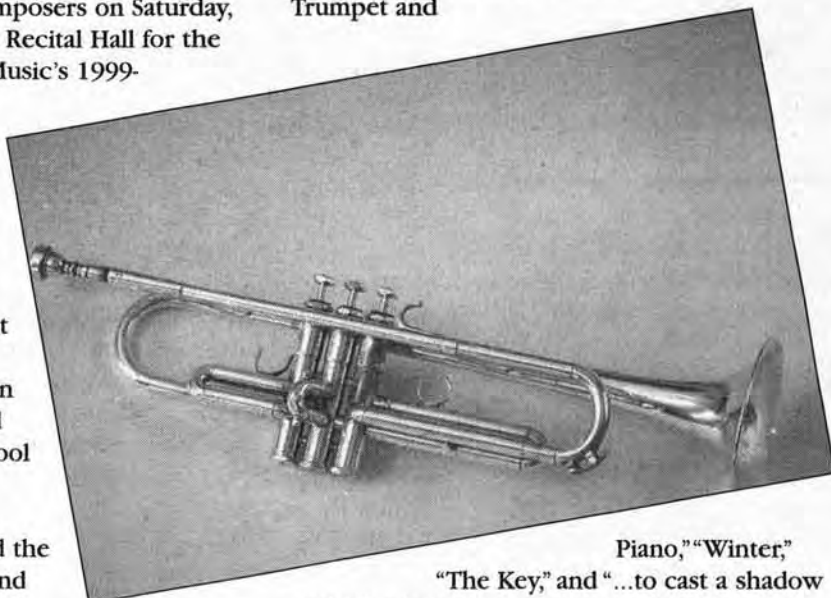


Chris Gekker Opens School of Music's Artist Scholarship Benefit Series

Chris Gekker, associate professor of trumpet and former long-time member of the world-renowned American Brass Quintet, will perform works by 20th century composers on Saturday, Sept. 18 at 8 p.m. in Ulrich Recital Hall for the opening of the School of Music's 1999-2000 Artist Scholarship Benefit Series. Gekker will be joined by Robert McCoy, piano, music director of the Maryland Opera Studio, and Steven Rainbolt, baritone.

Prior to his appointment at the University of Maryland, Gekker served on the faculties of the Juilliard School, the Manhattan School of Music and Columbia University. A native of Alexandria, Va., he attended the Eastman School of Music and the University of Maryland. A featured soloist at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, where he frequently performs with the Chamber Music Society, Gekker also has collaborated with many jazz and popular artists including Sting and Elton John. His award-winning recordings, called "a model of quiet perfection" by *CD Review*, have been featured in major motion pictures.

Saturday's program will feature music written especially for Gekker. Four contemporary works of beauty and vitality—"Sonata for Trumpet and



Piano," "Winter," "The Key," and "...to cast a shadow again" by American composers Eric Ewazen, David Snow and James Wintle will be featured in the style called "New Romanticism" by the later composer Jacob Druckman. A complete listing of the 1999-2000 Artist Scholarship Benefit series is shown below.

Tickets are \$16 general, \$12 senior and \$10 student. Call 405-7847 for more information or to charge tickets by phone.

1999-2000 Artist Scholarship Benefit Series

Chris Gekker in Concert

Chris Gekker, trumpet, and Robert McCoy, piano
Saturday, Sept. 18, 8 p.m.

Featuring works for trumpet by 20th century composers Eric Ewazen, David Snow and James Wintle.

Unsentimental Journeys

The 20th Century Consort
Christopher Kendall, conductor
Sunday, Nov. 14, 5:30 p.m.

Stravinsky's "L'Histoire du soldat" and Schoenberg's "Pierrot Lunaire."

Happy Birthday Mozart

University of Maryland Chamber Orchestra
Christopher Kendall, conductor

Sat., Feb. 5, 8 p.m. and Sun. Feb. 6, 3 p.m.

The 17th annual Mozart concert dedicated to music that pays tribute to the master.

A Bach Tribute

Fri., Mar. 3, 8 p.m. and Sun., Mar. 5, 3 p.m.

Featuring a Baroque concerti and cantata arias for voice and various obbligato instruments from J.S. Bach.

Guarneri String Quartet

Fri., Apr. 28, 8 p.m.

An evening of sublime chamber music with international musicians who celebrate their 36th season

All performances take place in the Homer Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Fine Arts Building. For more information, ticket prices or to charge tickets by phone, call 405-7847.

A Classic Look at American Women and Myth

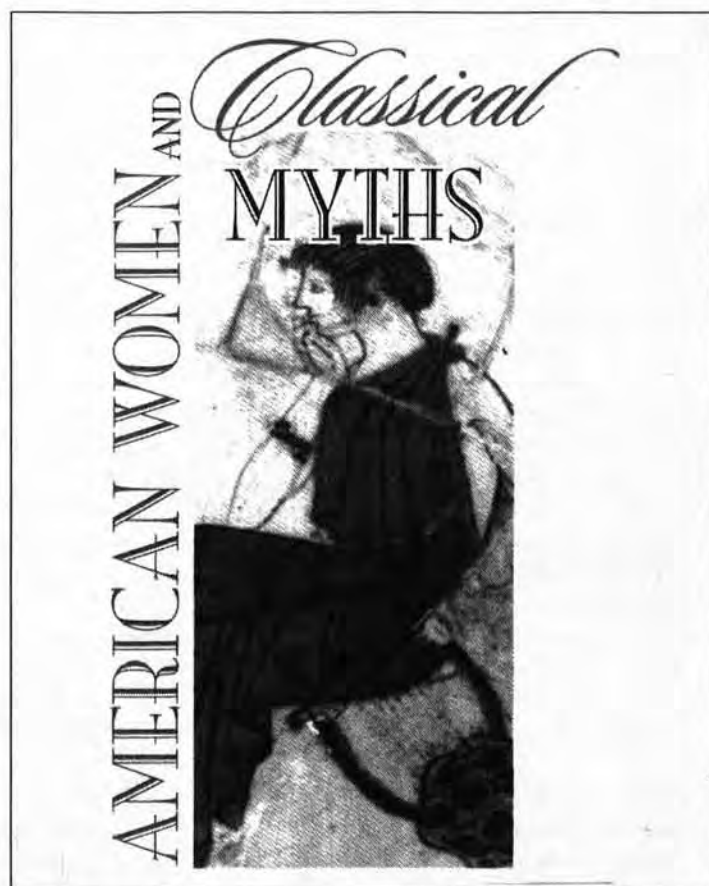
An impressive range of artistic achievements—the statuary of Vinnie Ream Hoxie, Harriet Hosmer and Gertrude Callie Khouri's screenplay "Thelma and Louise" among them—testifies to the inspirational power of classical myths on American women during the past two centuries. Sept. 24-25, the classics department presents a unique opportunity to examine the influence of mythology on female poets, writers, painters, sculptors, dancers and other creative women in 19th and 20th century America.

Funded by a grant from the Helen Clay Frick Foundation the interdisciplinary conference, American Women and Classical Myth, is aimed not only at secondary school, community college, college and university teachers, but also members of the general public.

Gregory Staley, classics professor and an organizer of the conference, says ancient Greek and Roman mythology has always been the area of classical studies most appealing to the broader American public. Two best-selling books on mythology, by Thomas Bulfinch in the 19th century and Edith Hamilton in the 20th century, have introduced millions to the ancient Greco-Roman world.

Classical myth has regularly been a source of intellectual interest and creative encouragement to American women, say conference organizers. Several of America's most distinguished women poets have tapped the rich vein of classical myth in exploring female identity and fashioning a women-centered aesthetic vision: Emma Lazarus, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Muriel Rukeyser and Adrienne Rich.

Topics addressed over the two days include



"Teaching the Power of Stories: American Feminist Science Fiction and Classical Mythology," "The Classical Heroine and the Male Voice," "Artemis in America: Edith Wharton's Age of Innocence as Classical Allegory," and "African-American Women Writers and Classical Myths." The presenters are from colleges and universities throughout the country.

For further information about the program and registration, visit the conference web site at www.inform.umd.edu/ARHU/Depts/Classics/mythconf/ or contact Gregory Staley at 405-2016 or gs32@umail.umd.edu.



Don't forget to stop by the First Look Fair Sept. 22, starting at 10 a.m. on McKeldin Mall. University clubs and student organizations will give information about themselves at this outdoor event.



for your interest

events • lectures • seminars • awards • etc.

Repairing the Breach

Bobby William Austin, president and CEO of the Village Foundation, discusses "Repairing the Breach: African American Leadership and Public/Private Partnerships" Monday, Sept. 27, from noon to 1:30 p.m., in Room 1102 Taliaferro Hall. A former program director at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Austin founded the *Urban League Review* and has served as a college administrator, editor and policy consultant in education and in the humanities.

The Village Foundation's mission is to develop and support programs to connect African-American men and boys—first, to their ethnic community; then, to the larger civic society.

This event is sponsored by the Center for the Advanced Study of Leadership at the James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership. For more information, contact Scott Webster at 405-7920 or swebster@academy.umd.edu.

KEYS to Success

The Women in Engineering program invites girls ages 11 to 13 years to participate in innovative workshops, hands-on lab activities and to interact with supportive role models through the KEYS—Science and Engineering Program, Saturday, Oct. 23, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The goal is for girls who are excited about science and technology at such a young age to be enabled to choose science, math and engineering tracks in high school and beyond.

Due to the popularity of the program, students will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, drop by the Women in Engineering office, 1106 Glenn L. Martin Hall (formerly known as Engineering Classroom Building) or contact Tao Peng at 405-0315 or tpeng@deans.umd.edu.

Studying Excellence

The department of communication is hosting its first Research Colloquium of the school year, Sept. 17, noon to

1 p.m., in Skinner Building. Speakers Lauri and James Grunig, public relations professors who have recently transferred to the department form the College of Journalism, will talk about public relations research as it is today and about one of the largest, most comprehensive studies in the field, The Excellence Study. All are welcome.

The Research Colloquia of the department of communication are held every other Friday at noon in Skinner Room 0200. The next Colloquium is scheduled for Oct. 1.

Peer Training

The Office of Information Technology Peer Training Program features a slate of 19 different non-credit computer classes for new and experienced personal computer and network users. Classes, taught in the evenings and on weekends, are open to University of Maryland faculty, students and staff.

Topics ranging from Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, to HTML, Adobe Photoshop and PageMaker and more are offered several times throughout the semester as a three-hour, hands-on experience in campus instructional computer labs.

See the Peer Training website at www.inform.umd.edu/PT for course descriptions and fees, the fall schedule of classes and registration.

Questions about course content can be directed to oit-training@umail.umd.edu or to 405-2940.

FORE!

The University of Maryland Golf Course is hosting the second annual University Golf Championship, Saturday, Oct. 2, with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. The format for the tournament is 18-hole individual stroke play. Participants must have a USGA handicap.

The \$50 fee includes greens fee, cart, prizes and dinner following the tournament. Call Wendy Stark at the Pro Shop, 403-4299, for tournament registration and information.

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Walk This Way

Are you interested in walking? Then consider Walk This Way, a 45-minute walking class that provides you with a great low-impact cardiovascular workout.

The class meets every Thursday at 5 p.m. at the Center for Health and Wellbeing, Room 0121 of the Campus Recreation Center. A photo ID and aerobics card or guest pass must be presented at each class, and you must be a member of the Campus Recreation Center to attend.

Walking paths may be inside or outside depending upon the weather.

Call Jennifer Treger at 314-1493 for more information.

Late Night Moves to McKeldin

The Late Night Study service formerly offered in the Hornbake Library has moved to the first floor east wing of McKeldin Library beginning with the fall semester. This 24-hour service is operational 11 p.m. Sunday through 8 a.m. Friday. There is no late night service Friday and Saturday evenings.

Access to McKeldin Library is by University of Maryland ID at the entrance to the library. Students will have a quiet place to study. No library reference or circulation services will be available.

For more information email Sue Baughman at mb248@umail.umd.edu.

Complex System Changes

The department of measurement, statistics and evaluation announces a one-day conference, Friday, Oct. 8 on "Measurement of Change in Complex Social Systems." Conference presenters include Bengt Muth (UCLA); Linda Collins (PSU); Harvey Keselman (UMannitoba); David Rindskopf (CUNY) and Aline Sayers (PSU).

In addition, there will be a pre-session Thursday, Oct. 7, titled "New Modeling Opportunities for Growth Mixture/Latent Class Analysis

Using Mplus" conducted by Bengt Muth.

Further information is available at the web site: www.inform.umd.edu/edms/courses/conference.html or by contacting Chan Dayton at 405-3626 or cd4@umail.umd.edu.

Investors Group

Edward Postal, senior vice president and chief financial officer of PSINet, a global facilities-based Internet Protocol data communications carrier, will be the featured speaker at the Wednesday, Sept. 15 meeting of the Investors Group to be held at noon in the Special Events Room at McKeldin Library. The meetings are free and open to everyone.

Electronic Workplace Readiness

The Division of Administrative Affairs is offering classes designed to prepare campus staff for the electronic workplace. These three-and-one-half-hour classes are led by industry professionals and will focus on developing the basic Windows and Netscape browsing skills essential for the electronic workplace. The cost is \$50, payable to the Department of Personnel Services via an ISR, which can be brought to the class. The classes will be in the new Patapsco Training Facility and are being offered Thursday, Sept. 16 from 8:30 a.m.-noon Thursday, Sept. 16 from 1-4:30 p.m.

To enroll contact Bridget Battaglini, coordinator, at 405-1101 or via e-mail at bbattagl@accmail.umd.edu. Directions to the Patapsco Building will be provided upon registration or at www.acctrain.umd.edu/ework.

Expanded Orientation

On the second Monday of each month, the Personnel Services Department sponsors a New Employee Orientation program for all new hires at the University of Maryland. This session takes place in Room 1101U (Training Room) of the Chesapeake Building.

The Personnel Services Department is pleased to announce Monday, Sept. 13, it will be launching an expanded new employee orientation program. This exciting program is designed to give new employees an understanding of what the University of Maryland is all about: its institutional mission, its students, and its services. This program is important in helping integrate new employees into the

campus and to help make them enthusiastic Terrapins.

Employees also will receive an overview of the history and structure of the university, a discussion of university benefits, a multimedia tour of the campus and campus resources, an orientation checklist, and an overview of the many other resources, services and privileges available to university employees. The session will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and lunch will be provided.

All newly hired employees are encouraged to attend this session for a comprehensive introduction to the University of Maryland. For more information call Organizational Development and Training at 405-5651.

To register for the orientation program, visit the Personnel Services website at www.personnel.umd.edu. If you can't register in time, walk-in participants are always welcomed.

Lynton Faculty Award

The New England Resource Center for Higher Education is seeking nominations for the annual Lynton Award for Faculty Professional Service and Academic Outreach. This national award recognizes faculty who connect their expertise and scholarship to community outreach.

The award will be presented at the American Association for Higher Education eighth annual Forum on Faculty Roles and Rewards, Feb. 3-6, 2000 in New Orleans, La. Nomination deadline is Oct. 15.

Contact Marie Troppe, coordinator of service-learning, at 314-5387 or mtroppe@accmail.umd.edu for more information.

Male Voices Needed

Male voices are needed for the University of Maryland Chorale for Fall 1999. MUSC 329A, University Chorale (one credit or non credit) meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., in Room 2102 Tawes Fine Arts Building. The Chorale is currently forming under the leadership of dynamic young conductor Phillip Collister. Interested persons should make contact at the numbers below.

For information or to schedule an audition, contact the musical director at 405-7865 or 410-830-4378, or email: pcollister@towson.edu